

# Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)

## Maryland Passes Law Allowing Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

What Is EPT?	Who Can Provide EPT in Maryland?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) is the practice of providing antibiotic therapy to the sex partners of persons diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) without an intervening medical evaluation.</li> <li>EPT is not intended to replace traditional partner notification and management. It can be a valuable option, though, for reaching partners who are unlikely or unable to seek medical care. The gold standard for partner management is still direct clinical assessment and treatment.</li> <li>In Maryland, EPT can be provided through the direct provision of medications or by prescribing antibiotic therapy for chlamydia or gonorrhea. EPT is not mandatory, but is permissible for certain health care providers in Maryland. See "Who Can Provide EPT in Maryland."</li> </ul>	<p>The following health care providers in both public and private health care settings may prescribe or dispense EPT to the sexual partner(s) of patients diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A physician licensed under Title 14 of the Health Occupations Article;</li> <li>An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with Prescriptive Authority licensed Title 8 of the Health Occupations Article acting in accordance with § 8-508 of the Health Occupations Article;</li> <li>An authorized physician assistant licensed under Title 15 of the Health Occupations Article acting in accordance with § 15-302.2 of the Health Occupations Article.</li> </ul>

## 2015 CDC STD Treatment Guidelines for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

<u>CHLAMYDIA TREATMENT</u>	<u>UNCOMPLICATED GONOCOCCAL INFECTIONS OF CERVIX, URETHRA, &amp; RECTUM</u>
<p>Doxycycline delayed release 200 mg tablets (Doryx)</p> <p><i>*Amoxicillin moved to alternative regimen in pregnancy</i></p>	<p><b>For EPT, and if Ceftriaxone not available:</b>  <b>Cefixime 400 mg</b>  <b><u>PLUS</u></b>  <b>Azithromycin 1 gram</b></p> <p>Otherwise: Ceftriaxone 250 mg as a single IM dose  <u>PLUS</u>  Azithromycin 1 g orally</p> <p><i>*Doxycycline moved to alternative regimen</i></p>

To find the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines, go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/std/>

### Changes to MD Confidential Morbidity Report Form DHMH-1140 – coming this summer!

Changes include, among other things, information about provision of EPT. Revised form, as a fillable pdf, will be available later this summer where current form resides: <http://phpa.dhmmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/what-to-report.aspx>.

**Effective Date and Implementation** JUNE 1, 2015. The Maryland DHMH is developing EPT regulations, guidance and educational materials. The guidance, FAQs, and educational materials will be posted for downloading on the DHMH Center for STI Prevention Web site as they become available: <http://phpa.dhmmh.maryland.gov/OIDPCS/CSTIP/Pages/EPT.aspx>.